

Brussels, 19 October 2023

Minutes of the second meeting of the expert group to discuss a draft Delegated Regulation (EU) on compartments for terrestrial animals (poultry)

E00930

on 18 October 2023, Brussels

1. Approval of the agenda

The agenda was approved as circulated prior to the meeting as part of the invitation.

2. Nature of the meeting

The meeting was non-public. The meeting was organised in hybrid format: some experts of the Expert Group 00930 on Animal Health attended physically in Brussels (CCAB), while the other experts attended it remotely via Webex. The Chair noted the absence of the European Parliament and the presence of the Council.

The revised draft for discussion (PLAN/2023/1113) was circulated to the experts ahead of the meeting.

3. List of points discussed

3.1. Introduction

The Chair summarised the objectives of the work and past discussions on the draft Commission Delegated Regulation supplementing Regulation (EU) 2016/429 on rules for approval and recognition of disease-free status of compartments keeping terrestrial animals (the draft).

The Commission presented the modifications made to the draft and explained the rationale for the proposed text, following comments from Member States' experts.

The major changes concerned:

- the general structure of the draft;
- some definitions;
- the pre-requisite for establishments;
- the general and specific rules for approval.

3.2. Exchange of views as regards the draft Delegated Regulation (EU) on compartments for terrestrial animals (poultry).

The experts thanked the Commission for the revised draft.

Some experts asked whether the draft could be shared with industry, while some others answered it had been already shared in their countries. The Commission confirmed they had received comments from some European producers' representative.

Some experts raised again their wish for the possibility of approval of cross-border compartments. The Commission explained that this would be a complex issue, but they would try to include it.

Certain experts asked the Commission to further reflect on:

- the on-site inspection of the establishments comprising the compartment;
- the clarity of some points of the text on status withdrawal, procedures to report breaches, timeframe for the pre-requisites of control plans;
- surveillance schemes to be applied in case of an outbreak of HPAI or ND in the vicinity of one component of the compartment.

The Commission noted all the comments and gave some preliminary answers, while indicating that the comments will all be considered, together with further written comments, in the next revision of the draft.

4. Conclusions

The Commission thanked Member States for their input and invited them to provide their written feedback by 17 November 2023.

5. Next steps

The Commission will use the outcomes of the discussion and the opinions obtained during this expert group meeting and the requested written comments to develop a revised version of the draft.

The Commission does not at this stage plan to organise a third meeting of the Expert Group. If deemed necessary, it will be organised.